

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A method of treating a disease state in a patient by irreversibly inhibiting the action of a catalytic antibody comprising:

a) administering to said patient a therapeutic amount of a CRAA, said CRAA comprising an epitope recognized and irreversibly bound by said catalytic antibody;

b) assessing said patient for inactivation of said catalytic antibody; and

c) repeating step a) as necessary to maintain inhibition of said action of said catalytic antibody.

Claim 2 (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said disease state is an autoimmune disease.

Claim 3 (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said autoimmune disease is selected from the group consisting of autoimmune thyroiditis, systemic lupus erythmatosus, asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, mixed connective disease, Reiter's syndrome, Sjogren's syndrome, vasculitis, and bird shot retinopathy.

Claim 4 (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said disease state is a lymphoproliferative disorder.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said lymphoproliferative disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple myeloma, acute lymphoblastic leukemia, lymphoblastic lymphoma, Small lymphocytic lymphoma, lymphoplasmacytoid lymphoma, Waldenstroms macroglobinemia, Follicular Center, lymphoma, mucoseassociated lymphoid tissue lymphoma, Hairy Cell Leukemia, Diffuse Large B-Cell lymphoma, Burkitts Lymphoma, and Node based monocytoid lymphoma.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method for stimulating production of antibodies with catalytic activity comprising:

a) administering to a test subject, an immunogenic amount of a covalently reactive antigen analog (CRAA);

b) repeating step a) as necessary to ensure effective antibody production; and

c) isolating and purifying said antibodies;

wherein said covalently reactive antigen analog contains an electrophilic center flanked by peptide residues derived from proteins associated with a peptide antigen to be targeted for cleavage.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): A catalytic antibody produced by the method of claim 6.

Claim 8 (original): A method of stimulating production of catalytic antibodies as claimed in claim 6, wherein an immunogenic amount of a transition state analog (TSA) is co-administered with said CRAA.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A catalytic antibody produced by the method of claim 8.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): A method for treating a disease state in a patient comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of antibodies having catalytic activity, produced by the method of claim 7.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): A method of inhibiting the catalytic antibody used in the treatment of claim 10, comprising:

a) administering to said patient a CRAA, said CRAA binding said catalytic antibody irreversibly;

b) assessing said patient for inhibition of catalytic antibody activity;

c) repeating step a) as necessary to maintain inhibition

of said catalytic antibody activity.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method for passively immunizing a patient, comprising:

a) administering to said patient a catalytic antibody specific for an antigen associated with a medical disorder diagnosed in said patient, said catalytic antibody being produced by the method of claim 6;

b) repeating step a) as necessary to maintain immunity; and

c) assessing said patient's sera for the presence of catalytic antibodies.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method for actively immunizing a patient, against a microbial infection, comprising:

a) complexing a covalently reactive antigen analog (CRAA) comprising an immunogenic microbial epitope from an infectious organism with an adjuvant, said CRAA-epitope-adjuvant complex comprising a vaccine;

b) administering said vaccine to said patient in a dose in the range of 100-1000 micrograms/kg body weight;

c) administering at least one booster injection, said at least one booster injections being administered at four week intervals; and

d) assessing said patient's sera for the presence of catalytic antibodies against said microbial epitope.